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Western Representative  
C. A. ANDERSON,  
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### HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

A careful reading of the president's letter to Germany and a study of the reasons of Mr. Bryan for resigning rather than sign the letter as secretary of state, merely emphasize the fact that there is nothing new under the sun.

The same questions arose out of the Napoleonic wars during the second administration of President Washington and in 1794 this infant nation would have declared war on Great Britain because of her interference with commerce between France, with whom she was at war, and the United States had it not been for the treaty negotiated by John Jay between this country and England—a treaty broken soon thereafter by the British fleet.

But the Jay treaty nearly involved this country in war with France during the first Adams administration. Conflicts between American and French vessels actually occurred, and the American army was recruited and mobilized and George Washington was placed in chief command. The wily Talleyrand had word conveyed by indirect means to President Adams that France really didn't want war and was ready to consider new treaty propositions. A treaty followed, which, like that with Great Britain, soon was broken.

During the administration of President Jefferson, who believed in peace at any price, although he had thirty years earlier written the declaration of independence which precipitated the revolution and gained American independence, the commerce of the United States suffered enormous wrongs at the hands of both Great Britain and France through a succession of blockade decrees by Napoleon and orders-in-council by Great Britain.

Although he could not enforce it, Napoleon declared a blockade against all of the British ports, and the British order-in-council declared a blockade of all French ports and of the ports of all nations friendly to France, which of course could not be enforced. The French ships assumed the right of seizing any ships destined to a British port, regardless of what sort of cargo was carried, and the British assumed the right to seize any neutral vessel consigned to the port of any country not at war with France, provided the vessel did not first put into a British port and submit her cargo to British inspection. Napoleon replied to this last British policy with a decree ordering the confiscation of all ships of neutral countries that had submitted to British inspection.

How similar the orders-in-council are today, and how similar the war area blockade of the German submarines!

Also the similarity should be noted between the measures proposed by Mr. Bryan of stopping all travel by Americans on ships carrying contraband and the non-intercourse policy actually adopted by President Jefferson. In the hope of averting war, Jefferson paralyzed American commerce by securing from congress authorization to proclaim an embargo against the shipment of American goods to any one of the belligerent countries.

The non-intercourse plan failed. The voters overthrew the adherents of Jefferson in the election following the destruction of the American ship Chesapeake by the British warship Leopard, and the war of 1812 resulted.

The American note is an excellent example of the iron hand on the velvet glove.

### A BATTLE OF PRINCIPLE.

The president's note to Germany is a fight for the future of commerce upon the high seas. If the German method is recognized and becomes a part of international law, when the

next war breaks out there will be no such thing as a neutral commerce.

The fact that terrible catastrophes sometimes bring matters to a head, often leads many to jump at the erroneous conclusion that it is the incident, and not the principle, that is the cause of a grave situation. We live by law; and law is not for today or tomorrow; and when the sinking of the Lusitania becomes but a historical catastrophe, like the "Chesapeake affair" in 1811, the law will still be the sole method whereby nations may continue to do business with one another, and the only way in which the subjects of nations may expect protection is through our ceaseless vigilance in seeing to it that the law is upheld and handed on intact from generation to generation. The "Chesapeake affair" was the incident by which the war of 1812 was precipitated. The Lusitania affair may precipitate the "war of 1915," but the principle of 1812 is the same as that of 1915.

The wicked wars of history are the wars for revenge, for retaliation, and for aggrandizement. To go to war because of an incident, is to go to war for revenge. The statement is frequently made that we went to war with Spain because of the sinking of the Maine. If the conditions in Cuba had not become intolerable and in defiance of civilization, the Maine never would have been sunk. But the sinking of the Maine simply focused attention upon the rights of mankind. The same was true of the Dred Scott case before the civil war. Some said the decision in that case caused the civil war. It was slavery that caused the civil war and the Dred Scott decision merely aroused public sentiment to a point where slavery had to go.

Neutral lives and neutral commerce enjoy certain inalienable rights upon the high seas. These rights are guaranteed under international law, as President Wilson points out with great clarity in his note. Except the United States, there is now no nation with sufficient power to command a respectful hearing by any one of the belligerent nations.

In justice to the American people it must be said that no act of the belligerents has aroused here any spirit of revenge. But in standing out firmly for the law of nations, President Wilson is literally making a fight for the future of commerce. The principles upon which he stands are as eternally right as were the principles upon which the revolution, the war of 1812, the civil war and the war with Spain were fought. That fact should be understood in Europe as well as in the United States, for the belligerent of today may be the neutral of tomorrow, as vitally interested in the protection of its neutral rights as the United States is today.

Treasury department employees have been informed that they must pay their grocery bills or lose their jobs. The groceryman of the national capital want the sort of high finance that amortizes the grocery bill quickly.

### NOW UP TO GERMANY.

President Wilson's note to Germany, reiterating the principles upon which this nation fought the war of 1812, is so pacifically phrased as almost to cause wonder why William J. Bryan hesitated to sign it. Of course, without restating it, all of the conditions of the previous severe notes to Germany were affirmed as the solemn purpose of the Washington government.

But the note does not demand a "yes" or "no" answer. While yielding nothing, it leaves several loopholes open through which Germany can crawl, provided she is willing to acknowledge the principles of the American contention without admitting for the time being that the Lusitania was an unarmed vessel. If, however, Germany should really be convinced that the Lusitania was armed, and that, owing to misinformation, the captain of the submarine had committed an unlawful act for which indemnities will be paid, and agree that such violation of international law shall not occur again, the incident would be ended and the United States would achieve her purpose.

Did the last note of President Wilson leave no loophole, naturally the German government would prefer another enemy abroad to a serious defeat in the eyes of the people at home.

In the former communication, this government conveyed the threat of war to Germany. The first result of that threat was the backdown on the part of Germany in the Gulf incident, a principle of international law rarely more serious than that of the spectacular Lusitania tragedy. The threat which caused the apology of Germany for the sinking of the Gulf incident is kept alive in the president's latest letter.

But, while the president is fully alive to the fact that the rights of neutrals on the high seas must be maintained at any cost, he fully realized, when the last letter was shaped, that it is much easier to get into war than it is to get out, and that the ultimate horror of armed conflict should be avoided unless everything else failed. He fully realized that he could not send an ultimatum to Germany, couched in language that would admit of no other answer than yes or no, and not compel the German government, for the purpose of preserving its prestige at home, to send a curt rejection. As it is, Germany may, if she will, evade verbally, yet agree in spirit to all that the United States insists upon.

Of course, the German government



knows that the Lusitania was unarmed, but its spies in New York have trumped up affidavits which make ground for argument and further correspondence and a final yielding to the rightful demands of the United States, which course Germany will follow unless her purpose is actually to set at defiance all laws of civilized warfare and pursue a course of ruthless murder.

Germany can have peace without humiliation, or she can have war with the United States.

General Villa's currency is now worth three cents on the dollar, but it is slowly accepted by everybody in the zone controlled by him, as those who reject it are shot.

Marconi's invention that permits one to see through a wall is all right, but it is much more expensive than the convenient cracks and knotholes at Hopewell field.

The enemy might capture New York City, as military experts assert, but they would be hurled back baffled and shattered from Oyster Bay.

Wall street says any one can buy a railroad cheap today. Thanks, we have just laid in our winter supply of railroads.

Already having enough war to satisfy all her national ambitions, Turkey says she will not declare war on Italy.

### With Scissors and Paste

HEAVEN DANCES.  
James Stephens.  
If in winter you shall drive  
Birds from crumbs, you shall not  
thrive;  
But if you fed them, they will fly  
Up to tell it in the sky.

For kindness has a merry wing,  
Crattit and a song.  
To the scrap with his pen  
Writing all the deeds of men.

Every angel weeps when he  
Pines for a tale of villainy;  
But if kindly deeds he writes,  
Heaven dances in delight.

PRESIDENT WILSON ON MEXICO.  
(Interview with President Wilson by Samuel G. Blythe in the Saturday Evening Post, May 25, 1914.)

"It is a curious thing that every demand for the establishment of order in Mexico takes into consideration, not order for the benefit of the people of Mexico, the great mass of the population, but order for the benefit of the old-time regime, for the aristocrats, for the vested interests. For the men who are responsible for this very condition of disorder. No one asks for order because order will help the masses of the people to get a portion of their rights and their land. They want order—the old order; but I say to you that the old order is dead. It is my part as I see it, to aid in composing those differences so far as I may be able, that the new order, which will have its foundation in human liberty and human rights, shall prevail."

### "WITH CHARITY FOR ALL"

(Abraham Lincoln.)

The Almighty has his own purposes. "Woe unto the world because of offenses; for it must needs be that offenses come, but woe to that man by whom offense cometh." If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offenses which, in the providence of God, must needs come, but which, having continued through his appointed time, he now wills to remove, and that he gives to both north and south this terrible war as the woe due to those by whom the offense came, shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to him? Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsmen's 250 years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn by the lash shall be paid by another drawn by the sword, as was said 3,000 years ago,

so it still must be said: "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness for the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

### FOREIGN FIRMS IN WEST AFRICA

(Consul J. W. Yerby, Free Town, Sierra Leone.)

Each of the British West African colonies has appointed a "controller" to wind up the affairs of the German and Austrian trading firms within their boundaries. The "controller" in each colony has given public notice to all creditors to present their claims and demands to him, their indebtedness to said "controller" by definitely fixed dates on account of each of the "enemy" firms. The colonial government directs in each case that all monies due each firm be at once paid; that all legal claims by British subjects, or neutrals be presented for payment, and that the remainder, together with goods and other property not disposed of in settling claims, be held in trust until the end of the war to be subject to possible secure arrangements. Money is being placed in the Bank of British West Africa to the credit of the "controller," the amount for each firm being a separate account.

### WHERE HE GOT IT.

(Louisville Times.)

He was a witness in a case in the police court.  
"What is your name?" inquired Prosecutor Robinson.  
"Mah name?" inquired the darky, incredulously.  
"I'm talking to you," snapped the prosecutor.  
"Well, sah, mah name is Hallowed Hopkins," answered the negro.  
"Hallowed—Hallowed," gasped the judge. "Where did you get that name?"  
"From mah maw," answered the negro. "It am from de Scriptures."  
"From the Scriptures? What part of the Scriptures?"  
"Deen you all remember, judge, wheah it says 'Hallowed be thy name'?"  
The judge recalled the passage.

### HINTS ON LIVING FOREVER.

(Continued from Page One.)

(Rev. C. E. Jefferson, in Woman's Home Companion.)  
If we live for pleasure or for money or for fame, then the spiritual realities must of necessity become nebulous and vague. To feel that we are immortal, we must live like immortals. Gazing constantly into the trivial blinds the eyes to the splendor of the eternal, and working always for fading wreaths robs the heart of its beliefs in the crown of glory. God breathes assurance only into hearts which are open to him. To those who give themselves wholeheartedly to the service of mankind in the spirit of his Son, he communicates not only peace and joy, but an unconquerable conviction that when work here is finished, to die is gain.

### UNCLE JOE'S BROTHER.

(Aitchison Globe.)

A feature of a recent election in the new town of Orlon, Okla., to decide upon incorporation, was A. W. Cannon, aged 75, a brother of "Uncle Joe" Cannon. He is one year younger than his illustrious brother, and also the youngest son of the family. He is as vigorous and energetic as the former speaker and is, beyond doubt, one of the best posted men on the oil game the world over. When Mr. Cannon went to the polls and announced his name, some one asked: "Any relation to Uncle Joe?"  
"That's all," was his answer.

### GERMAN USE OF HEAVY CANNON DECIDES FATE OF PRZEMYSL

(Continued From Page One.)

the stretch on the northerly slopes of the town is fearful.  
Already the battlefield is flecked with hastily made crosses, marking graves some of which contain as many as twenty bodies.

### Gathering Up Wreckage.

The roadsides are strewn with rifles, knapsacks and clothing. Already this wreckage is being collected and forwarded to the German sorting station at Jaroslau.

north of Przemyśl lay the body of a German soldier, his face mercifully covered by a coat. Thence onward the field is strewn with Russian dead. In many places the bodies lay in rows along the road, the faces always covered.

The work has not progressed as far as the trenches around the forts. There the dead lie as they fell. Many of the bodies are stretched at full length on the curbing shelves of trenches, their heads resting on their arms. It is as if they sleep. In the woods nearby cuckoos are calling.

### Shell Horror Seen.

Where shells struck among massed Russians the scene is too horrible for description, and I can only say that long contemplation of it would drive a man mad. Even soldiers used to such sights are struck dumb or have recourse to three words, "Dass ist krieg." (That is war), which for them tells the whole story.

Further on the scene loses its aspect of human tragedy and becomes merely sickening, for here a group of Russian horses has been torn to pieces, and their heads are strewn among the trees.

Behind the lines of trenches abandoned cannon still stand, and small arms and ammunition that could be gathered by the bushel have been ground into the earth by the feet of the fleeing troops.

On the road to Jaroslau is a long procession of peasants who are being moved out of the fire zone, both for their own sakes and to prevent possible leakage of information advantageous to the Russians. They are driving forward herds of horned Galician cattle; women struggle forward with babies at their naked breasts; children are carrying bits of pottery and other household goods; old women are being transported in the wicker baskets of farm carts. Colts, pigs and geese run wildly among the throng.

I do not see one of the weary people shed a tear. The only sound they make is the cry of the long-haired peasants driving the frantic cattle. At times the scarlet bodices and skirts of bare-legged women give the scene almost a festive aspect. It is like a comic opera troupe gone to chaos.

Others have cut branches from trees and these they lay over their babies to shield them from the sun.

### Troops Follow Refugees.

Following the refugees came troops, troops, troops, as far as the eye can carry.

Cannoniers are swaying with sleep on the six and eight-horse gun carriages. Hungarian cavalry has taken two poppy-flecked fields on one side of the highway, and ulans with the Prussian black and white buffing from their lances are moving amid standing grain on the other side. Infantry is trudging through the dust, the face of every man streaming with perspiration and every uniform is powdered.

### Marching to Battle.

All these troops are marching toward the operations progressing north of Jaroslau from fifteen kilometers (9.3 miles) to twenty kilometers (12.4 miles) distant. The rumble of the cannonade up there is incessant. Weigel summed up the significance of these tremendous movements about Przemyśl in his characteristic terse way:

"It's a fine life. Go out and shout your way into a town and then pile back."

Romanian and Tyrolean horses loaded with mountain guns are the charming features of this war pageant. Its terrible features are the farm wagons loaded with Russian wounded, whose uniforms and emergency bandages are drenched with blood. Many of these wagons are driven by women.

Russian prisoners are being marched forward in detachments of 1,000 each. The German officers speak well of them, calling them "gutmuetic" (good natured), and declaring them to be not bad fellows. Passing the streams outward bound from Przemyśl are bodies of the German landstrum marching into the city to do police work.

made a fortress. Its dome is now unroofed and its walls are scarred as if lightning had played over them.

Detachments of prisoners and troops have thrown themselves face downward in the field for a few minutes' sleep. Miles of army route are white with the dust of marching columns, but scores of fields are significantly black with crows. They, also, tell stories of battles' aftermath.

### Russians Behave Well.

Hurried talks with substantial citizens of Przemyśl indicate that the Russians behaved pretty well during their long occupation of the town. I hear no talk of atrocities. When Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolavitch was about to enter Przemyśl, secret police preceded him and ordered the closing of all the windows and the keeping of the population in their homes. But upon his arrival the grand duke rescinded these orders and had the people come into the streets. During the Russian occupation the czar and one of his daughters visited the town.

"Were people glad when the Austrians and Germans retook the city?" I asked a citizen.

"They wept for joy," he replied. The same informant said that during the Russian occupation the Muscovite authorities assembled 15,000 of the population dwelling in the Przemyśl region, of whom 5,000 were sent to Siberia to prevent any possibility of their serving in the Austrian army.

### Threats of Siberia.

In making requisitions on the population the Russians seem to have been not much more high handed than most troops; but any hesitancy or delay in filling them invariably brought threats of Siberia.

Citizens describe the feeling among the Russian common soldiers as most despondent and declare that up to the retaking of the town the mass of the Russian troops believed the Austrian army would wipe out.

The inhabitants say the Russian discipline and sanitation were good. During both sieges the town was full of Russian spies. Most of the work of espionage was assigned to Russian students. The hunger during the first siege is described as terrible. I was told that people fell in the streets from weakness.

All agree that the retaking of the fortress in three days must exert enormous moral effect on Austrians and Germans. They sum up the effect by saying:

"When the heavy artillery arrives, it is over; and the Russians know it."

### Repetition of Belgium.

It is the story of Liege, Namur, Maastricht, and Antwerp over again, and that story is a story of heavy artillery versus fortress.

At the first sound now of heavy artillery the Russian soldiers begin to lose heart, and the Russian follow. The forts here illustrate the terrific power of the Austrian and German guns. One was hit by a shell from a forty-two centimeter (sixteen and one-half inches) cannon. Its enormous concrete works were ripped apart, and blocks of reinforced concrete measuring twenty-five feet long, twenty wide, and fifteen high were moved en masse, while the steel tur-

ret, eight feet high and a foot thick, was blown eighty feet across the moat.

The Russians evidently realized the enormous moral effect of the retaking of Przemyśl on the Balkan situation, for after the early order to evacuate the fortress they gave the order to hold until the last man.

### Russians Lose Heavily.

The German losses are small compared to the results attained. The Russian losses were heavy.

The storming began May 31, simultaneously with the artillery fire. The Russians time and again made desperate counter attacks on the wings, closing in on them. Fort No. 10, which fell on June 2, brilliantly defended itself.

Bavarians and Silesians began a general advance on the second Russian line, on the evening of June 2. This advance had the fullest result in that the Russians, who were trying to retake the position they had lost at noon, received the German counter-attack when they were exhausted.

### 2,000 Taken at Once.

This move by the Germans is an ancient strategy and has often been employed by them in the present war. Its result on June 2 was the capture of 2,000 Russians at one point. Simultaneously the Germans stormed the other position of the second Russian line and advanced at all points.

In the night of June 2 one battalion advanced into the town and may the last of the Russians leaving. At dawn on June 3 the town was occupied. On the south front and part of the east front the Austrians and Hungarians could not advance, but the taking of the north front by the Germans compelled the Russians to abandon their positions opposite the Austrians and Hungarians.

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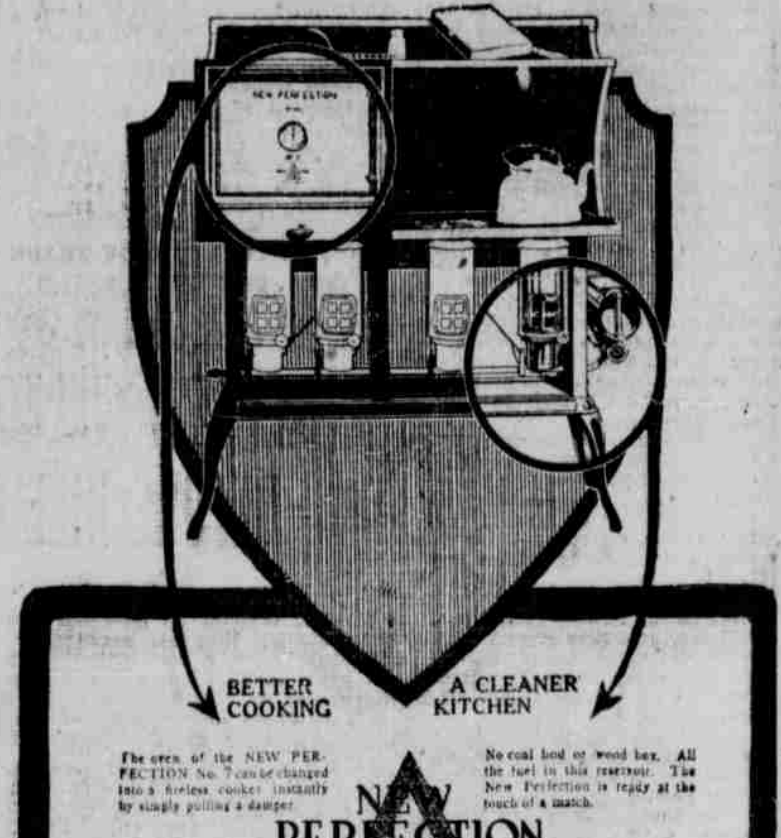
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